



Selective admissions soar

BY REBECCA DAVIS
Staff Reporter

Rejections to Ivy League and selective schools were significantly lower this year compared to last year, according to a guidance department poll distributed to seniors in homeroom May 7.

Last year, of those students who applied to selective colleges (such as Amherst, Brandeis, Duke or M.I.T.), only 41 percent were accepted. This year, poll results show that 83 percent of the students applying to selective schools were accepted.

While 27 percent of those students from the high school applying to Ivy League schools were accepted in 1990, the class of '91 has a 49 percent acceptance rate. The Ivy League includes such universities as Brown, Dartmouth, Harvard-Radcliffe and Yale.

The class of '91 "did their homework" when it came to applying to colleges, guidance department head Jeffrey Lewis said. "I think students are more wisely choosing the schools they apply to," Lewis said, adding that last year many students applied to schools too difficult for them.

Eighty one students applied to an Ivy League school last year and only 24 were accepted. This year, only 41 students applied to those schools and 20 were accepted. Similarly, while 58 students applied to selective schools last year, only 40 applied this year.

Despite these differences, the same number of students are attending Ivy League and selective schools this year as did last year.

"I think a lot of students were a little scared going into this year. Last year there were a lot of students who got rejected to a lot of schools and I think that sent a message to students this year," Lewis said.

Members of the class of '90, according to Lewis, did not withdraw applications from other schools even after they had decided where they would be attending.

"They hurt each other," Lewis said.

However, many present seniors withdrew applications from alternative schools once they had decided where to attend.

"[Seniors] opened up the door for other students. It was delightful to see that out of this class. The message was heard and they actually cared about their fellow classmates," Lewis added.

Counselors Eileen Blattner and Gloria Corbitt had a meeting with all seniors applying early decision in the fall, encouraging them to withdraw applications once they had been accepted.

"We learned from [last year's class] mistakes," explained senior Lisa Farmer. "We knew what we were up against more than the kids did last year."

Senior Heather MacDonald, who plans to attend Princeton in the fall, said her classmates are more well rounded than last year's students. She pointed out that her class had fewer National Merit Scholars, but more activities such as sports, theater and music which boost your qualifications and help your chances of admission.

Senior class president Bryce Dakin agreed.

"If you have strong academics and not much else, then that's not going to get you very far," Dakin said.

The students last year were equally involved in their activities, according to English teacher Steven Fox.

"Is this year's class any different from last year's class? I doubt it, and I doubt next year's class is very different from this year's class," Fox said.

Moreover, Shaker graduate Austin Ratner, from the class of '90, emphasized that acceptance to "the alleged elites" depends significantly upon how unique or original your application appears.

"When those schools are looking at the pool from Shaker, there are so many to choose from - nobody really stands out," Ratner explained. "It depends on how visibly successful your application looks. Our class probably didn't come across as



PLANNING A FUTURE. Guidance counselor Patricia Gleason discusses college plans with junior Quentin Johnson.
Photo by Jason Hamilton

unique and as special as you need to be to get in. We weren't aware that it may have been necessary to demonstrate this uniqueness."

Several present seniors said that the acceptances proved that their hard work had paid off.

"I think we worked a lot harder and took senior year a lot more seriously than [seniors] did last year," Nathalie Renard said. "We didn't start our senior slump until much later, and we kept working. That accounts for a lot."

Others said the difference could be credited to luck or to demand.

"This year's senior class throughout the nation is smaller," explained senior Katie Ebner. "Our class doesn't have as much competition [as compared to last year's class]."

Changes are being made in the guidance

department's programs that prepare juniors and seniors for the application process. This year, admissions officers from various universities held workshops for students, parents and teachers. Experts spoke to students about writing college essays and to families about applying for financial aid. In addition, counselors went to every senior English class to reinforce the steps in the college application process.

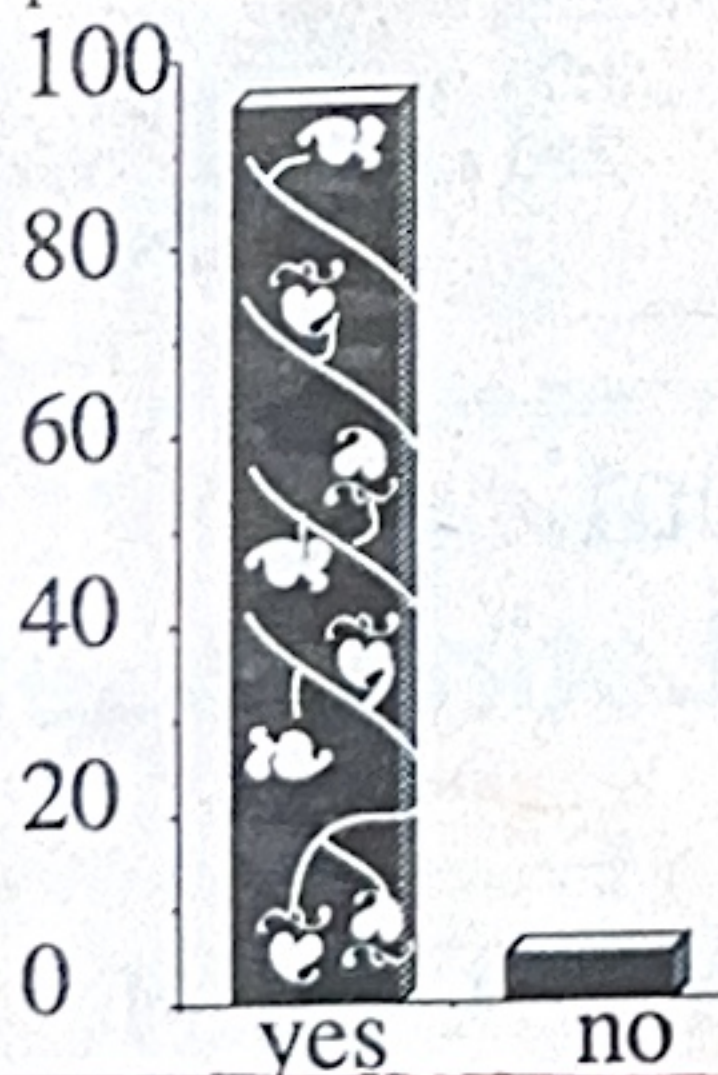
An assembly for juniors met April 17 with a panel of admissions officers from the University of Michigan, Florida A and M, Hiram College, the University of Miami and the University of Pennsylvania to help them prepare for next year.

Lewis credits the students with working more closely with their counselors, applying to "reach" schools as well as safety schools and applying to fewer schools.

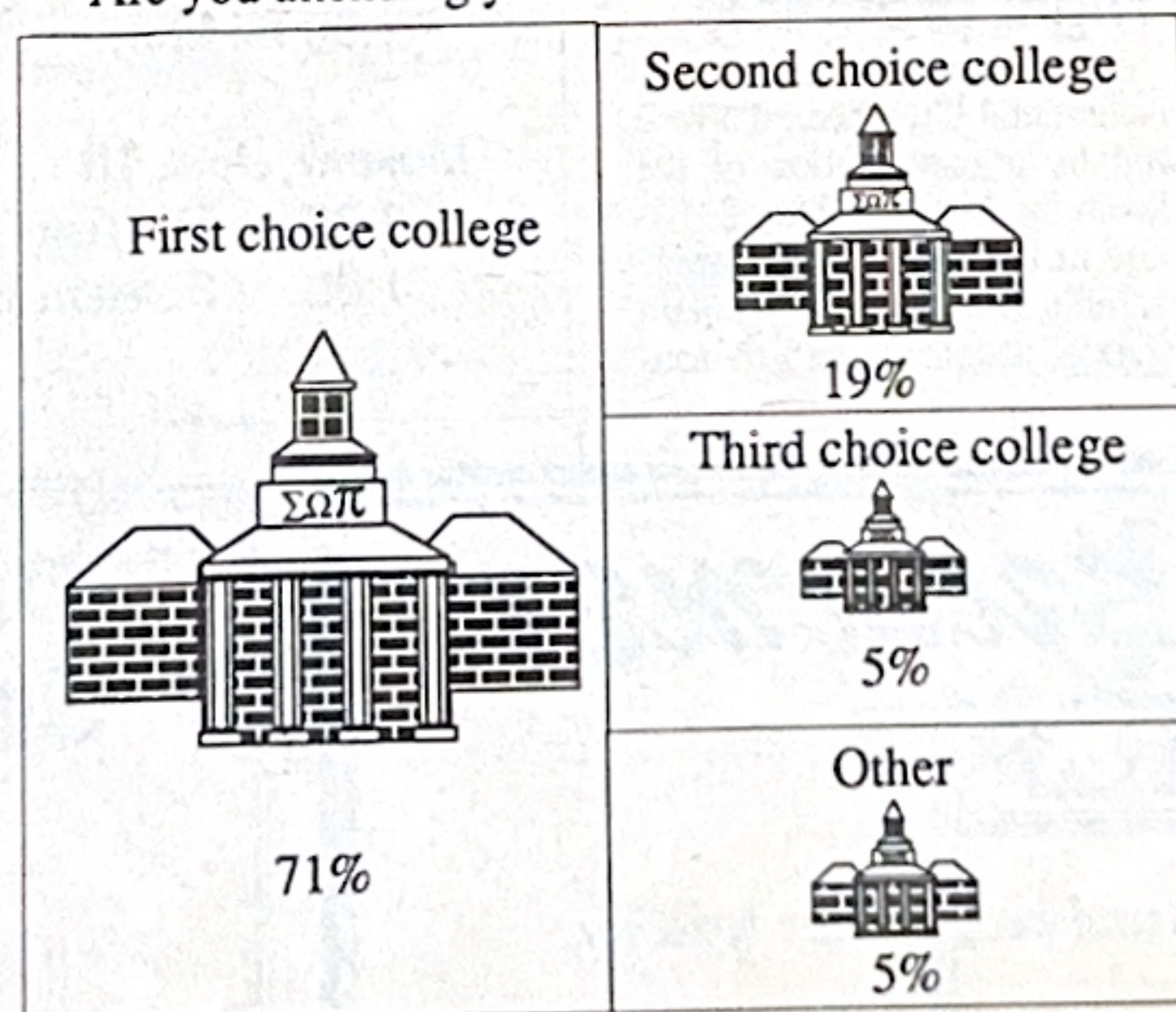
Looking ahead: Shaker students share plans for future

Ivy Towers

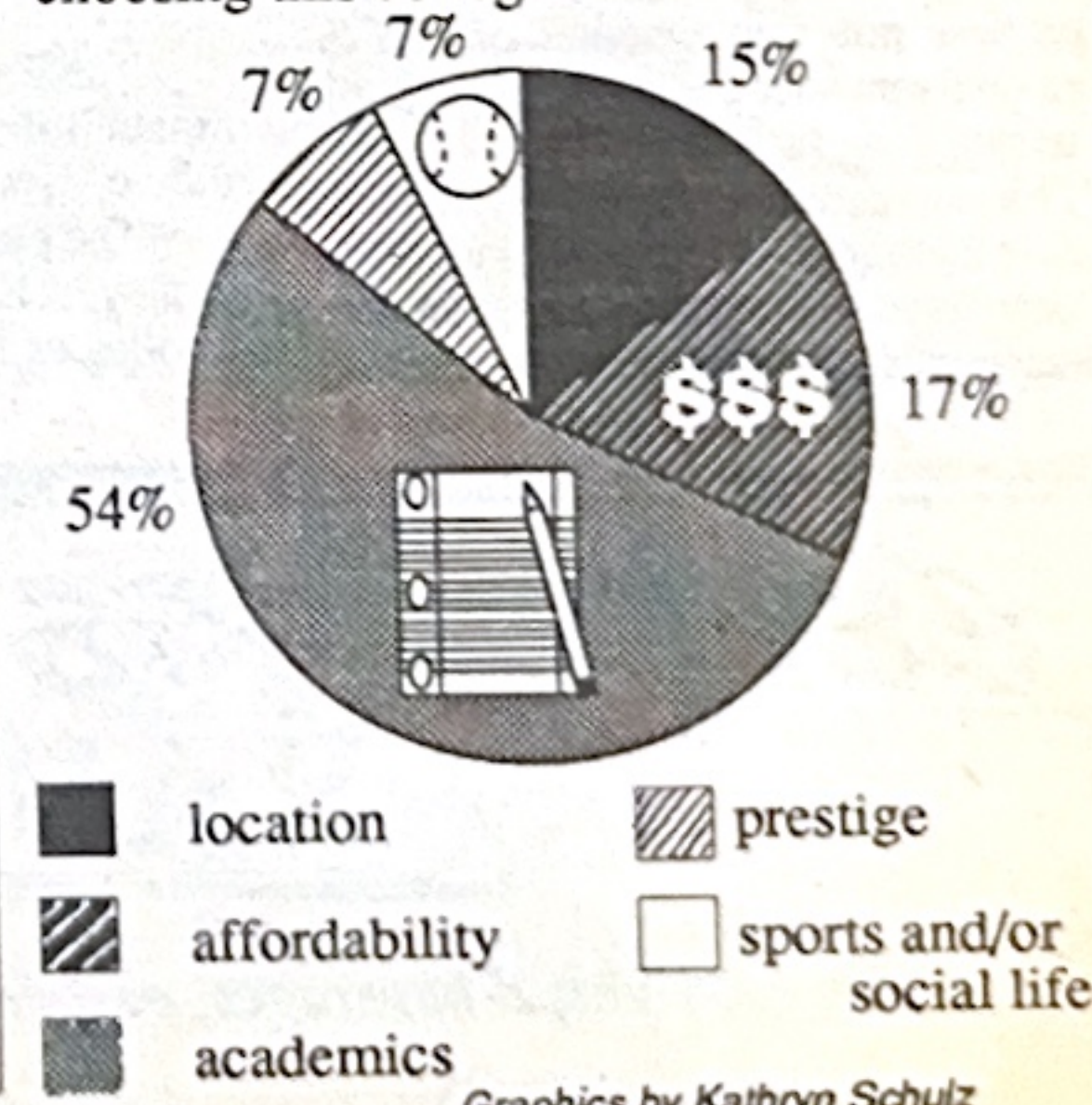
Out of 100 students surveyed, 95 percent said they planned to attend college in the fall.



Are you attending your:



What was your primary reason for choosing this college?



Graphics by Kathryn Schulz

Civil rights activist shares her struggle

BY JAMIL SMITH
Co-News Editor

Angela Davis, known for her activism in the civil rights movement of the 1960s and her Communist beliefs, spoke March 22 to students about her struggle and the future of the "lost generation."

Davis, who has run for president on the Communist Party ticket, said she had become a Communist because it was a method for her to pursue equality.

"I have been committed to justice and equality for as long as I can remember," Davis said.

According to Davis, her race and political beliefs were prime reasons why she was discriminated against. She cited an incident where she was fired by University of California at Los Angeles before she taught one class after her participation in the Communist Party was discovered.

"I received death threats by the hundreds. People would send messages such as 'Go back to Africa' and 'Go back to Russia,' but I started not to pay attention to them," Davis said.

Davis was arrested on charges of murder and conspiracy in the late 60s. Guns

registered to her name were used in the murder of three men and she was in prison for over a year awaiting the trial. She offered her insight on what it felt like to be imprisoned.

"I didn't know if I'd see the outside of a prison again. I didn't know if I'd ever be free again or in this jail we call freedom," Davis said.

According to English teacher George Harley, Davis' speech was originally planned to be presented in his 10th period class. Davis was invited to speak by her niece, sophomore Cecilie Davis. Instead, it turned into a full-scale presentation in the large auditorium.

"I enjoyed her speech," Harley said. "Her topic was one which was appropriate and one that we can all relate to."

"It was interesting to see someone that we've talked about in class," African-American history teacher Ruben Henderson said. "That's real history."

Davis concluded her speech by giving advice to the black students in the audience.

"Understand your history," Davis said. "Everything you are is because of what someone did before you. We are the living manifestations of history."



SPEAKING OUT. Civil rights and Communist leader Angela Davis speaks to students in the large auditorium on March 22. Davis lectured the audience on her struggle for equality and the future of young America.

Photo by Jason Hamilton

Social studies department adds Honors African American history to curriculum; guidance department makes personnel changes

BRIEFS

African American history will be offered at the honors level in 1993, according to social studies teacher Ruben Henderson.

The social studies department recently voted in favor of Henderson's recommendation to include honors African American history in the curriculum.

The honors course will be different from the college preparatory African-American history course, according to Henderson.

"I want to require honors students to attend a black play every year," Henderson said. "In the honors level, there would also be the expectation that we would see such famous speakers as Jesse Jackson and Angela Davis. In the college preparatory classes, these activities are optional."

Henderson said that he recommended the addition of honors African-American history in order to attract more students into the program.

"I wanted to encourage a greater variety of students to join the African-American history program," Henderson said.

Henderson stated that the prerequisite to taking honors African-American history will probably be American History. He also said that he was not sure whether or not the present one-semester course will be lengthened to two semesters.

"I have to decide whether or not to have two one-semester courses, honors and college prep, or to have them both in one semester," Henderson said.

City institutes Vehicle I.D. Program to prevent theft

The Shaker Heights Public Affairs Department is sponsoring its Vehicle Identification Program from May to August in an effort to prevent car theft.

Residents and non-residents may have their car windows permanently etched with their vehicle identification number.

The police expressed optimism about the program. According to Detective Thomas Kohanski, Crime Prevention Bureau Officer, the identification number disrupts the theft if the car is stolen.

"Most cars are stolen for parts, especially doors. A vehicle identification number would act as a deterrent, since the thief would have to break and replace all of the windows before selling the parts, thereby making the theft unprofitable."

Kohanski added that since the identification number is the car's serial number, the owner does not have to worry about the etchings when he or she decides to sell the car.

There is a \$15 charge for residents and a \$25 charge for non-residents for the 10-15 minute process.

Gorillas Night profitable

The Environmental Club hosted a taco dinner followed by a presentation of the movie "Gorillas in the Mist" on May 2.

The purpose of the dinner was to raise money for the rapidly disappearing mountain gorillas of Rwanda, according to Environ-

mental Club president Sarah Kirchner. The number of mountain gorillas, the largest of their species, has dwindled down to 310 due to civil war and lack of adequate protection from poachers.

The club raised about \$350 as a result of the dinner, according to Kirchner.

"We are especially grateful to the people who paid for more than one person and gave extra money," Kirchner said.

Blattner to become head of guidance department

Guidance counselor Eileen Blattner was named the new head of the guidance department by principal A. Jack Rumbaugh, replacing counselor Jeffrey Lewis.

Blattner said she has mixed emotions about accepting the position.

"My favorite part of my job is working with my students directly, and I will have

fewer students next year," Blattner explained.

While Lewis did not advise students while he was the head of the department, Blattner said she will continue to work with students on an individual basis.

"I don't ever want a job where I don't work with students," Blattner said.

Blattner said it is important for students to feel welcome in the guidance office.

"I really want to encourage students to come to the guidance office, to view it as a place where they can always get help, TLC and information," Blattner said.

Along with Blattner's appointment, several other changes in job responsibility have been made within the department.

Lewis will resume student counseling in the fall. He will also coordinate computer programming for the department.

Counselor Patricia Gleason will work with the other counselors in coordinating activities dealing with college admissions.

F I N A L S

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

8:30 AM SOCIAL STUDIES
1:00 PM MATH

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

8:30 AM SCIENCE
1:00 PM CONFLICTS

MONDAY, JUNE 10

8:30 AM ENGLISH
1:00 PM FOREIGN LANGUAGE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

8:30 AM CONFLICTS
1:30 PM STUDENT-TEACHER
CONFERENCES

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Congratulations, Senior Latin Students

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THE • LATIN • CLUB

Semanteme shows improvement, but...

This year's edition of the Semanteme has created a minor controversy concerning its lack of printed submissions representative of the student body as a whole. This controversy creates far reaching questions not only for the Semanteme, the racial makeup of its staff and how it selects works for publication, but it also casts doubt on whether enough emphasis is placed on creative writing in all English classes.

In his forward to this year's edition, the Semanteme's editor-in-chief says that the literary magazine attempts "to capture the spirit of the student body," and "represent the student body as a whole, fairly and objectively." Such a noble objective is hard enough to achieve when only 36 submissions are printed, but it clearly cannot be accomplished with the printing of multiple submissions by the same individuals, many of whom are members of the Semanteme staff, and with so few minority submissions. Since its distribution, the Semanteme has received criticism for its failure to properly represent the diversity of the student body and it is taking action to ensure that in the future the magazine will more fully represent the total school population. These steps include the possibility of printing more editions per year, limiting the number of works by an individual which can be printed and limiting the number of staff submissions printed. They have also recognized that their meetings, which are open to anyone who wishes to attend, have failed to attract enough minority involvement in the staff and as a result they will begin

actively recruiting minority staff members. The Semanteme should be commended for its effort in this regard, however, this may not be enough if the Semanteme does not receive more quality submissions.

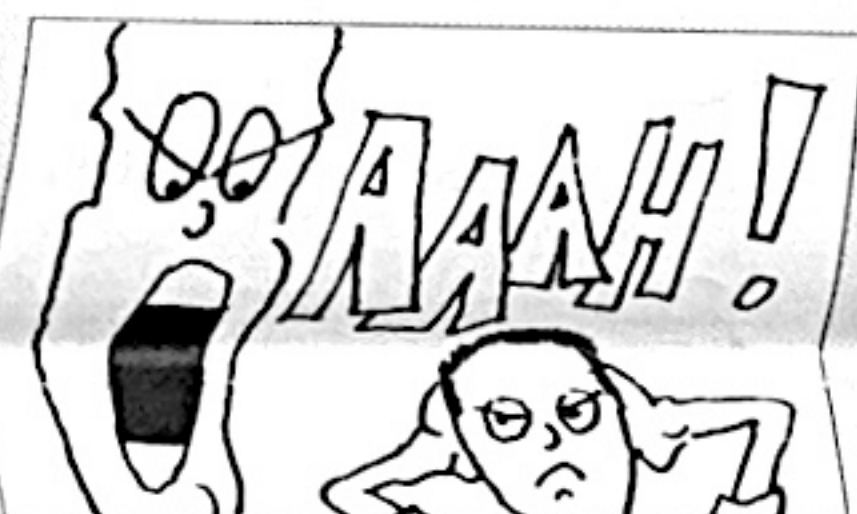
One reason for the lack of submissions to the magazine is that there is little emphasis on creative writing in many English classes. Many students enjoy creative writing but are rarely given a chance to express themselves creatively within the structured format of their English classes, and lack the time to devote to writing outside of school. It would be helpful, both to the

Semanteme and the students themselves, if English teachers set aside certain days, perhaps one per quarter, in which students would be assigned to write a creative piece. It would then be turned in to the teacher at some later point and submitted to the Semanteme. This assignment would be checked by the teacher to insure that the student had put in some effort during the class period or on their own time, but it would not be assigned a

letter grade as the pressure resulting from grading may limit how a student expresses himself. Setting aside time for creative writing in class would greatly increase the total number of submissions from which the Semanteme has to choose, combined with the new policies which the Semanteme is planning to implement should make the magazine more representative of the student body and afford more students the opportunity to write creatively for publication.

RITE IDEA

CHEERS AND JEERS



CHEERS to the retiring staff members. We wish you well.
JEERS to all hall screamers, stoppers and blockers.

CHEERS to the coming of summer. It's about time!

JEERS to finals.

CHEERS to front lawn sunbathers.

JEERS to people who leave their lunchtime trash outside.

CHEERS to Saturday Night Live—it's better than ever.

CHEERS to Dad. Father's Day is right around the corner.

JEERS to getting arrested on senior prank day. We're not mentioning any names...

CHEERS to the JV Baseball team. The goat

lives forever.

CHEERS to the seniors leaving. More parking spaces for everyone else.



Letter from the editors

The Shakerite has been through many changes over this past year. If you notice any further changes in this issue, it is probably because you are reading the first Shakerite produced by the 1991-1992 staff. We are excited about the talented group of students who will be serving as editors, reporters, artists and photographers in the coming year. We welcome all letters to the editor and encourage every student to take advantage of the Shakerite's open forum. To find out how to join our staff, please contact Sally Schwartz in room 224. Thank-you for your support over the past year and we hope that you will continue to read, enjoy and respond to the Shakerite.
Jeremy Kahn and Marshall Levin
(1991-92 Shakerite Co-Editors-in-Chief)

Individuality casualty of war for social supremacy

BY CLAY WEINER
Staff Reporter

The gunfire begins in early September. A white flag is raised in the middle of June. What used to be a game is now a vicious conflict. It has been dubbed the popularity race, the struggle for acceptance and even the brawl for social supremacy. Very few survivors return unscathed from the carnage of the battle.

Underneath all the superficial practices of high school, a war is raging. It shows no sympathy and it feels no remorse. You either win or lose; nobody falls in between. This battle is not nation against nation; it is man for man and you are a foot soldier. Your opponents might try to deceive you by their warmth, so be careful. Even your closest ally might leave you only to gain a brief acceptance by the masses.

One must develop the weapons to survive this conflict. Sporty cars, stylish brand name clothing and expensive shoes are considered the best armaments. They are the tools to counteract cliques and peer acceptance, the deadly realities of school life.

A well groomed appearance is an important key to success. The correct belt, matching socks and the latest clothes signify success and confidence. Perfection shines like a scrubbed mess hall.

Jokes and insults are the main form of attack. They are usually considered acceptable until you become the source of entertainment. Once a target of your peers' relentless fire, you resort to the last protection that remains. The only defense mechanism is an impenetrable vest strapped firmly across your chest, concealing the last of your emotions and individuality.

Across the spoiled battlefield at Shaker, you will find little compassion. Some people remain exceptions to the rule, but more often than not, their attempts fail.

The winners hold the top plateau of the compound and often refuse to give any assistance to those struggling in the bloodshed below. However, with the right connections and the socially correct appearance, a lucky soldier can become a general.

To counter-attack, one must have self-confidence. After all, the friends you have today will not be in your life 10 years from now, so why allow them to rule your existence in high school.

The popularity race is destructive, and it takes a lot more maturity to remain apart from the war than to become a part of it.



The Shakerite is a public forum, published nine times yearly, for and by the students of Shaker Heights High School.

Letters to the editor must be signed and may not exceed 250 words. Letters, subscription and advertising inquiries should be delivered to the Shakerite office in Room 224, or mailed to: The Shakerite, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120. The Shakerite reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor or advertisement.

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Stress release: the finals answer

PERSPECTIVE

BY JEREMY PARIS

Opinion Editor

The seniors are gone. The weather is getting warmer and Memorial Day has passed. Yes, the end of the school year is near. However, one towering menace blocks the path between now and summer vacation. One stressful monster now stands between us and ultimate happiness. Finals.

In elementary school and middle school, the end of the school year was a happy time. The work trailed off and relaxation began to set in. Both teachers and students settled into the mental limbo that is summer. At the high school, the end of the year is an anxious and hard-working time as students prepare for finals and try to save their grades.

As a public service to all stressed-out or slightly nerve-racked students, I am proud to present the top five finals stress releases. These methods are guaranteed to release nervous energy and built-up restlessness and enable students to remain focused during long periods of studying.

Method number five of this long awaited list is the old stand-by, "the Scream." "The Scream" allows for a lot of freedom as the length, volume and content of the scream are up to the individual. However, most good screams involve shouting at the top of one's lungs and are often followed by a command to "shut up" by bystanders. This is not recommended for use during test taking.

Number four is much more subtle. Known as "the Guillotine", it involves more premeditated planning than method five. First, the individual must either purchase or make their own miniature guillotine (guillotine is defined in the dictionary as "a machine for beheading by means of a heavy ax or blade that slides down in vertical guides") out of available household materials. Next, it is necessary to find some sort of old doll or action figure and dress it up as your "favorite" teacher. Finally, you should proceed to place your "teacher" into the miniature guillotine and "let 'er rip."

Stress release method number three is, like method five, an old favorite. For lack of a better term, it will be known as "Destructive Exercise." This method involves any form of hitting, punching, kicking or other physical contact against inanimate objects. A useful related tactic is to pretend that the inanimate object is someone, or something, that you dislike. Thus, the energy of your anger and frustration is channeled against the inanimate object and you are able to avoid expensive law suits.

The next method, number two, is called "Creative Break-taking" or "Procrastination." This method takes years of hard work to perfect and is considered an art form in some circles of society. (In fact, there is an actual Procrastinators Club which has over half a million members although very few have gotten around to actually joining the club.) "Procrastination" can include such activities as eight hour dinner breaks (starting at 3 o'clock in the afternoon), a sudden increase in time spent with younger siblings and the most important method, sleeping (which really deserves a category all to itself).

The common theme of these "Procrastination" activities is that all of them are unconstructive, time-consuming and involve the use of time which should be spent on other, supposedly useful, tasks, such as studying. Therefore, stress is avoided along with work.

And now, the number one method for release from pressure during and around finals (drum roll, please); "Getting Perspective." It is sometimes hard to remember as the end of the year approaches that the fate of your entire life does not hang in the balance during finals. Someday, you might even look back at these exams and laugh. (Ha Ha! - nervous laughter)

There is one sure fire way to get perspective. By risking life and limb and challenging death, new light will be shed on finals. They will gain newfound unimportance as you accelerate your car towards a cliff, stopping just before you go over the edge, or as you attempt to walk home from the stadium after an Indians' game.

Any combination of these methods will help any stu-



dent get through this stressful period in life and reach the light at the end of the tunnel—summer. Now, before the rush begins on mini-guillotines, some final finals words of wisdom to ponder as studying begins. This too shall pass, and hopefully, so will we.

'PC' movement restricts freedom of speech

BY KATHRYN SCHULTZ

Art and Graphics Editor

I will readily admit that I am a liberal. That's right, I'll confess to it, even in print. Despite having grown up in an age when such terrible beliefs were frowned upon, I seem to have been tainted by the opinions of fellow liberals during my impressionable youth. However, despite my beliefs I am angered and dismayed by a growing movement among liberals across the country regarding the need to be "politically correct."

The theory of political correctness holds that society must go out of its way to avoid being racist, sexist, or discriminatory in any way. While I laud these ideas as being among the highest and most commendable of goals, I believe that the politically correct, or PC movement, has created a militant liberalism that is oppressive and a threat to the basic tenets of freedom. Many people may not yet have come across this insidious movement, as it has mainly sprouted up on college campuses across the nation, and in fact in the Western world. However, I feel that it is important to alert people to what I perceive to be its dangers before it grows larger.

The PC movement as it has developed at various colleges (including most of the Ivy League schools and small liberal arts institutions) attempts to enforce arbitrary moral standards on society. Students are instructed to use the term "women" (or "womyn", to eliminate the male derivative) instead of "girls", "African-American" instead of "Black", and "humankind" instead of "mankind" among other examples. Violations of these rules range from reprimands to fines, and in extreme cases, expulsion. Once again, insofar as the hope of the PC community is to end discrimination and increase humanitarian appreciation of one another, I respect and support its goals. In no sense do I condone or excuse discrimination in any form. However, I strongly believe that

the methods that the PC movement champions are constitutionally and morally unjust.

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states in part that "no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press" shall be made. This Amendment was not added without reason, nor was it placed first randomly. These early freedom-lovers clearly felt that the freedom of speech and press took precedence over all other rights, and were essential to the maintenance of a free state. Despite its honourable goals, the PC movement clearly flouts the individual liberties so central to the concept of freedom cher-



The very term 'politically correct' implies that there is one correct policy and that those who do not abide by it are inferior, incorrect or immoral.'

ished and fought for by the United States since its infancy. The very term "politically correct" implies that there is one correct policy and that those who do not abide by it are inferior, incorrect, or immoral. By forcing people to conform to set moral standards, the PC movement does more to restrict individualism than to promote it.

Voltaire once said, "I disagree with what you're saying, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." To deny someone the freedom to say and write what they please is the first link in the iron chain of totalitarianism that shackles a person's heart and hope and soul. There has always been a price for freedom. It is regrettable that today the price is sometimes discrimination, whether intentional or ingrained. However, destroying personal liberties is not the answer.

Never in my life time have I regarded any phenomenon with as much as fear as this one, for I truly believe that the PC movement is a threat to everybody's freedom.

There are a great many wrongs waiting to be righted in today's world. I would like to think that the PC movement is a misguided attempt to address some of these. However I sincerely believe that their methods are unjust and inappropriate. Yes, active discrimination is a problem. But is it really realistic to hope that forcing people to change their manners is going to cleanse the ignorance and hate from their hearts? And yes, passive discrimination—the automatic, unintentional slur against a minority seen in words like "mankind"—is also a problem, but is it worth sacrificing the most valued freedoms in the world to prevent it? I can't help feel that myself and others may become unsuspecting victims of a different kind of discrimination when the current PC movement catches up to us. It is just a small step from limiting speech against whole groups to limiting free speech against individuals. I do not want to emerge as an adult into a world where I cannot criticize my president or any man or woman, black or white, without fear of being seen as racist or sexist. Why not let PC stand for Personal Consciousness and try to eradicate the problems by arousing greater human awareness, instead of through threats, fear, and emotional guerilla tactics.

I can only turn to the past for support. The darkest periods in United States history are times when restrictions were imposed on the freedoms of speech and press. The era of McCarthyism is just barely behind us that I am appalled that people have so quickly forgotten the repression it signified. The Salem witch trials stand as another example. Every time moral law has been imposed in the Americas, disaster and repression have followed. I sense that there are people itching to point their fingers at a witch. Well, if need be, I will stand with the accused and feel the hot fire at my back. I am by far the smallest thing at stake.

Cedar Point has its ups and downs

BY DAN RATNER
Spotlight Editor

The restraints close down—you're trapped. Faces blur as you roll away from the loading dock. Metal clanks against metal as the car climbs. You reach the top and for a moment feel the mounting tension before you plummet to your death. Then your stomach drops as you fly down the first drop. You hit the first turn and... STOP!

OK. Now go back to the beginning of the article. Wait two hours and reread it. Is it as exciting now? Was it worth it? That's what a typical day at Cedar Point is like—short, yet exciting rides preceded by long, not-quite-so-exciting lines.

But let me tell you about the exciting rides since the long waits were uneventful and, well, long. The newest ride, "The Mean Streak" is supposedly the world's tallest wooden roller coaster. Imagine you are in line for this towering roller coaster. Picture the 3000 people ahead of you. Think of yourself walking away from this roller coaster because you don't have five hours to spare. I would truly like to tell you what this ride was like. However, I can't because I was one of those many people who didn't have five hours to waste. If you have no social life, then this is the ride for you.

After this disappointing experience with the new wooden roller coaster, you have to head to other rides. So you begin to walk to other rides. You walk. And walk. And walk some more. You see, Cedar Point is a large place. But if you want to go on certain rides, you can get to them. It may take an hour or so, but that's the price you pay.

Finally you reach the ancient corkscrew. This is the one ride you can go on twice in one

minute. But not if you have the same experience I did with it. While I was waiting in line, I heard a loud noise that resembled Roseanne singing the national anthem. I looked over to see two cars mashed together. The people were kind of mad. You'd be mad too if it happened to you. Some of them were missing limbs (small children reading this article: This is not true. The carts did collide, but every person in the cart did, indeed, have limbs).

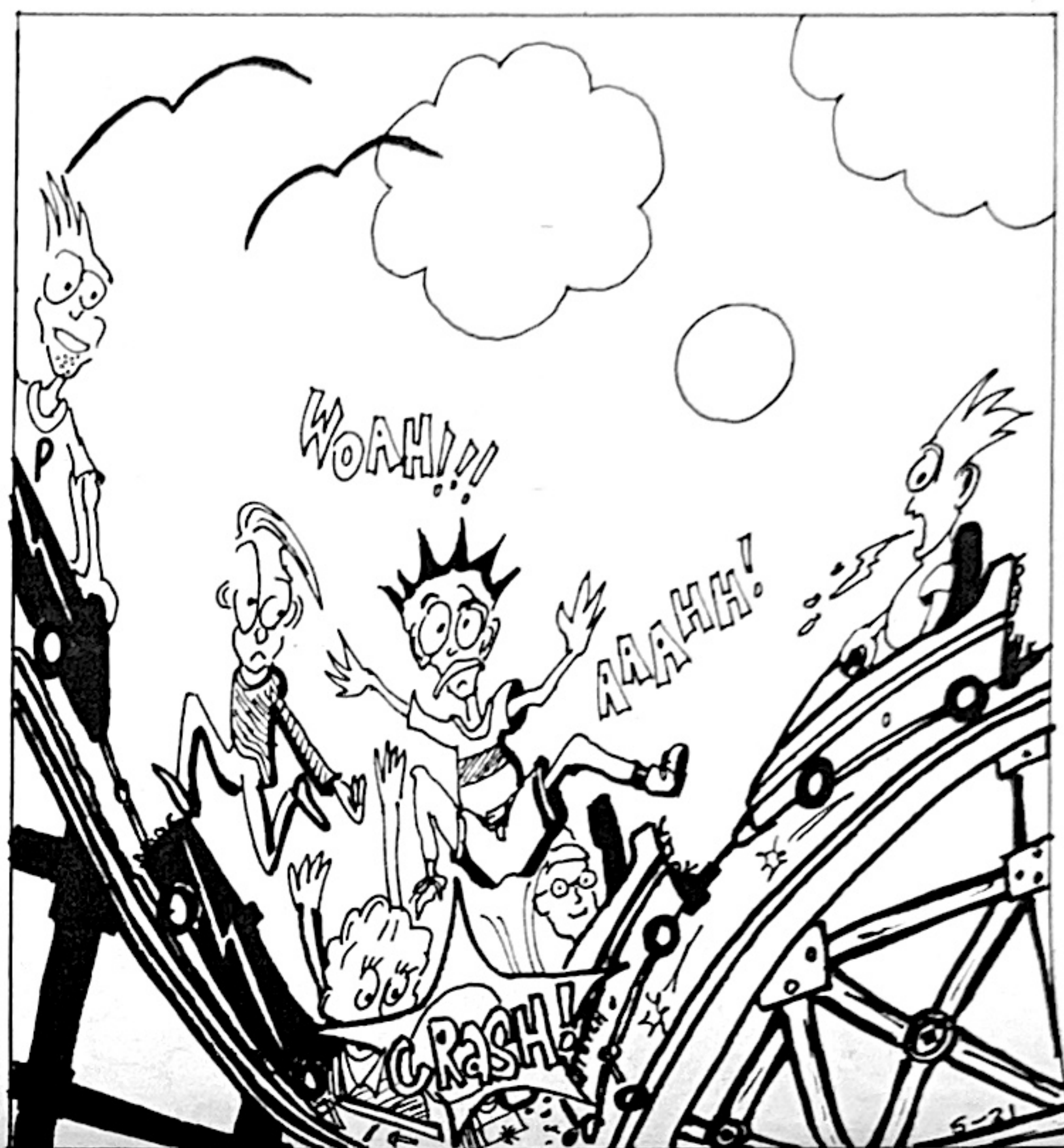
“While I was waiting in line I heard a loud noise that resembled Roseanne singing the national anthem. I looked over to see two cars mashed together. The people were kind of mad. You'd be mad too if it happened to you. Some of them were missing limbs.”

After all of this wonderful fun, you can head over to the food stands. The food was unquestionably the best part of the amusement park. It may have been the only good thing there. The food varies, from chocolate covered bananas to your favorite and mine, hot dogs. Enjoy your lunch break while it

lasts. Soon you may be regurgitating that very same hot dog on some ride. I can guarantee that the hot dog won't taste as good the second time.

Once you have digested (or thrown up) your lunch you head over to Soak City, Cedar Point's water park. Here you pay five dollars to get into the water park for one hour. My question is, why should you have to pay more money after you already paid \$20 to get in? If you're willing to spend that extra money, then go ahead. Now you can enjoy... nothing special. There are only a few slides which are crowded on the way up, and short on the way down. There are the speed slides, however. On these slides, you can fall at a 90 degree angle, while burning your back on the slide. Oh what fun!

Now that you're all dry again, you can resume the land rides—such as White Water Landing and Thunder Canyon. Oops! I guess those will get you wet also. Get your towel out again. And also, get used to your



Shakerite artwork by I-Huoi Go
shoes squishing out water for the rest of the week.

After the rides, you still have the games to experience. You can empty your wallet further on hundreds of games in which you can not win. If you do win, however, you can take home a wonderful prize, such as a huge stuffed elephant. These prizes are so great...you can't fit them in the car, and once you get them home, they are useless. You may never touch them again, but it was worth the experience. Well, maybe not.

The best time to have all of this fun is on the weekdays. The lines aren't as long, and in Cleveland, it rains during most of the weekend. Then again, the only time students can go is during the weekend. But hey, that's why summer is here.

If this day sounded like fun to you, get ready to empty your wallet, wait in lines, get wet, wait in lines again, and walk a few miles across the park. Have fun, but please don't invite me.

Dan Friedell & David Lipton contributed to the story

Coasting into Summer! Dover Lake creates minimal splash

BY DAN RATNER
Spotlight Editor

Way out in Hicksville, U.S.A., there is a small valley with rolling hills. In this valley is Dover Lake Water Park. Although it's a small place, and out of your way to get there, it's the perfect place to cool off in the summer...almost. You can't run out of things to do when you can go on eight water slides, three inner-tube rides, and a wave pool. But besides all of the fun things available, you can also get a tan. And I don't mean one of those tans where there is an outline of a shirt and socks on your skin (i.e. Farmer's Tan). So while having a great time, you can actually look good on the beach. Yes, people won't know that you're from Cleveland, and once you tell them, they probably still won't

believe you.

Back to the water park. The slides are a lot of fun, because of the speed you can build up. You'll fly around the corners for a while...and then go flying into a pool of water. However, to have a truly good time while falling into a pool of water, you must forget the possibility that a few little kids may have urinated in that very pool earlier.

The slides are not without their problems, however. Every once in a while a mat can get turned sideways and slow someone down. This leads us to the problem of the weight factor. The rule is the bigger they are, the faster they go down. Here's where the two problems go together. Once, at a school graduation party, I was going down a slide when my mat did, in fact, turn sideways and kept me from sliding down. The next person in line was a friend of mine, who happened to be large (to put it mildly). So he came down

and was about to hit me, when his speed took him on the side of the wall. If he hadn't been moving so fast, I would be a pancake right now. I fixed my mat and went down safely. It was fun now that I look back on it, but at the time I was terrified. The slides are fun as long as the stoppages don't cause any collisions.

Inner-tube rides at Dover Lake are a lot like the slides. Although they can be a great deal of fun, there can be a certain amount of pain involved. The drop-offs slam you into the water below, and since the water is about three feet deep, it can really hurt. While you're heading down, readying yourself for the collision with the water, you will most likely hang through the inner-tube. This can be very rough on you, and may make it hard to sit down in the morning. I must not forget to warn you about the currents you might get caught in. The circular currents keep swing-

ing you around until you push your way past everyone and begin to plummet to your death. If you manage to avoid these injuries and problems, you will probably have fun (unless you're afraid of water). Believe it or not, it is possible to avoid the pain and suffering, so try it.

After all of the pounding you've taken on the slides and on the inner-tube rides, get ready for the wave pool. When I used to go in the wave pool, it was great. I was too short to avoid waves hitting me nonstop for 10 minutes at a time. But now I need to go to the deeper parts of the pool. Unfortunately for me, no waves come out there because they're just forming. In the only place in the water park where you're supposed to get knocked over, I can't.

Despite the problems of the water park, it can still be a nice place to cool off...for a fat midget.

Ease on down the road...



Shakerite artwork by Kathryn Schütz

The beginning...

Incoming freshmen anticipate fear as well as freedom

BY LAURIE GREEN
Staff Reporter

Remember the first day of high school? After a restless night of tossing and turning, you wake up two hours early. Thoughts of walking into the wrong class and not realizing it fly through your head.

To us it seems like ages ago, but to the incoming class of 1995 it is looming near. Planning and thinking about their move to the high school is uppermost in the minds of most eighth graders.

"The middle school has prepared me for high school by teaching me how to study and to manage my time wisely," Starla Wallick said.

The middle school has also taken the initiative of introducing and preparing middle school students for the proficiency tests.

"We have taken practice tests and the teachers have told us the number of questions we must get right to pass the tests," Wallick said.

Along with the preparation, many eighth graders have fears about coming to a new and much larger school.

A pressing problem facing many eighth graders is not being able to find their way around the high school.

"My biggest fear is getting lost and not being able to find my classes," Jennifer Grossman said.

Others say they fear they will have difficulty fitting in with the variety of new people they will encounter.

"I am most worried about feeling out of place and not being able to make new friends," Sarah Drexler said.

According to Kara Moskowitz, who has an older brother, having a sibling at the high school will make the transition smoother.

"I think having my brother at school will be good because I know a lot of his friends. It will be good to know people in

higher grades," Moskowitz said.

While starting at a new school may cause fears and anxieties, many students feel they are ready to make the transition from middle school to high school.

"I don't think that it will be a difficult transition because we already switch classes and are used to the hectic schedule," Kevin Cole said.

Some students feel that there are definitely more privileges and freedom given to high school students.

"I am excited about coming to the high school. I am ready for the greater freedom that comes along with the ninth grade. In the middle school we are not allowed to wear sweat pants to school, but the high school gives us more freedom to dress how we

want," Fumah Ilaahi said.

Although there is optimism among the soon-to-be freshman class, rumors tend to create a dark cloud around the high school.

"I heard that they beat up freshman and then throw them in garbage cans," Drexler said.

Many eighth graders are excited about the variety of clubs, sports and activities the high school offers.

"I am looking forward to participating in lots of activities and sports. I think it is a great way to meet new people and make new friends," Grossman said.

A peer mentoring program will be instituted next year where seniors will volunteer to tutor freshman who are having difficulty in their classes.

"I think this program is a great idea because the seniors can help us with our academics and to get adjusted to high school life," Wallick said.

With thoughts of the next four years drifting through their heads, the eighth graders seem to feel that the opportunities far outweigh any fears or rumors.

"Freshman year will be the best year yet," Ilaahi said.

And the end...

Seniors depart with lasting memories, helpful advice

BY ALISA WARSHAW
Staff Reporter

No more papers, no more books. No more teachers' duty looks... until college at least.

Ahhh, the life of a senior. A social room, free periods instead of study halls, the ability to excuse themselves and other privileges denied to the plebeians of school.

As seniors finish their four years at Shaker, a lot of reminiscing takes place. For some, the years flew by.

"I think while we were in school it went by slowly, but now that it's over it feels like it just began," senior Zohar Gottlieb said.

Whether the experience was exhausting or enlightening, many changes have taken place in the past four years.

In ninth grade everything was new. Teachers didn't have special parking spaces around the oval, a pep rally was chaos, and lunch periods were 50 minutes long.

"The 50 minute lunch periods were a big break in the day," senior Rachael

Ratcheson said.

During this year, an uproar began when traditional plans for commencement were changed. Graduation will hence forward take place in the Russell H. Rupp stadium.

"I have always hated the Front Row ceremonies. The high school is not associ-

ated with the Front Row, so I'm really glad that our graduation is at the high school," senior Theresa Colson said.

Despite these changes, most seniors have had a good experience at high school complete with memories that will always be cherished.

"When I look back I think what I'll remember most is that I was part of the core group of people that started girls lacrosse at

Shaker," Colson said.

Other students also cite their extracurricular activities as fond memories.

"I think I'll look back on my extracurricular activities such as tennis, choir and environmental club as well as the relationships I formed with teachers," senior Sarah Kirchner said.

Despite all the good times and memories, some students have regrets about their high school years.

"There are some people I would have liked to have met," senior Pat White said.

Others such as Padma Ghatage would have become more involved in activities.

"I would've gotten involved in more clubs," senior Padma Ghatage said.

Memories, regrets and all, the time has come to say good-bye to Shaker Heights High School. As a final note seniors impart their advice to the rest of the school.

"Unless you want to be trampled, don't sit in the middle of the hallway," senior Shana Litt said.

Some seniors take a more serious attitude and give advice which they found useful in their high school years.

"Set your goals and aspirations and don't let anyone make you compromise your principles," senior Courtney Jackson said.

Seniors also express advice toward grade grubbing as they depart.

"To all those AP people out there-it's not the grade, it's what you learn," White said.

With high school behind the class of 1991, the future looms conspicuously ahead.

"The future looks bright. It'll be full of changes, decisions and new beginnings. I think it'll be both exciting and scary," said Gottlieb.

Watch out, world, here they come.

"I think while we were in school it went by slowly, but now that it's over it feels like it just began."

—Zohar Gottlieb

35
FINALS

Trying to park
around the
oval

PROM

SENIOR
PROJECT

TO THE
FUTURE



Children's literature extends beyond childhood

BY NANAR TABRIZI

Staff Reporter

It's 8:30 p.m. and a drowsy little Suzie does not want to go to bed. With droopy eyes, she assures you that sleep is not possible without hearing her favorite bedtime story.

Whether it is for the delight of the story or merely an excuse to stay up an extra half hour, children's books serve a crucial role in the growing up process.

Most children begin to read in an attempt to imitate the adult world.

"When children see their parents reading, they want to do what they do. They have stories read to them, and they find that the experience of reading can be rewarding," said Shaker main branch librarian Martha Reilly.

Freshman Raquel Clemons expressed a similar sentiment.

"Since my older brothers went to school before me, I got interested. It was something I didn't know how to do, and I always wanted to know all the things my brother knew any ways," Clemons said.

Adult influence extends to the subject matter selected by children.

"What they like to do is go out with me and catch things and then read

up and learn about them. I think that as a parent, one tends to relive his life through his kids," biology teacher Kenneth Culek said in reference to his own children. "I'm doing that. I guess you kind of direct them in your order, good or bad."

Children's literature also serves as an important tool in teaching children valuable lessons in life.

Sophomore Joanna Johnson remembers her favorite book, *Scuffy the Tugboat*.

"It was a story about a little plastic boat that got lost in a river which went into a lake and then into an ocean surrounded by big steam boats. I learned that even though it was a little boat in a big ocean around more massive and beautiful boats, it was still noted and special," Johnson said. "It made me realize that throughout my life, even though I would be surrounded by people with different qualities and attributes, I would still be able to make my mark and stand out among all the others."

The merit of children's literature is further exemplified in its realistic portrayal of life.

"I really liked Winnie the Pooh," said U.S. history teacher Susan Kargin. "He's a bear who goes along and gets into trouble because of his love for honey. There was a rabbit who helped him get unstuck from situations, the donkey Eeyore, who was extremely negative, and Tigger the tiger



ONCE UPON A TIME.. The Shaker Heights Public Library provides a quiet atmosphere for reading. These two girls take advantage of the silence as they catch up on their pleasure reading. Photo by Jon Strange

who was very optimistic. It seemed all the characters in Winnie the Pooh reflect the different characters in real life. It's fun to see a character and say, I know someone like him."

The appeal of children's literature is often in the plot itself.

"I always read *The Giving Tree* as a kid," junior Michelle Stevens said. "It's about a boy who has a best friend as a tree. The tree gives him apples to sell for money because the boy is poor and a trunk to make a sailboat and sail away in. The tree gave everything of himself because he loved the boy. I thought it was a touching story."

Influences from children's literature are apparent in the process of growing up.

"Children's books, although they might seem to be chivalrous chatter, are very important in children's development," junior Dan Messinger said. "It made me focus on poetry. It was very creative, which is something intertwined within myself."

Differences in literature exist within different generations.

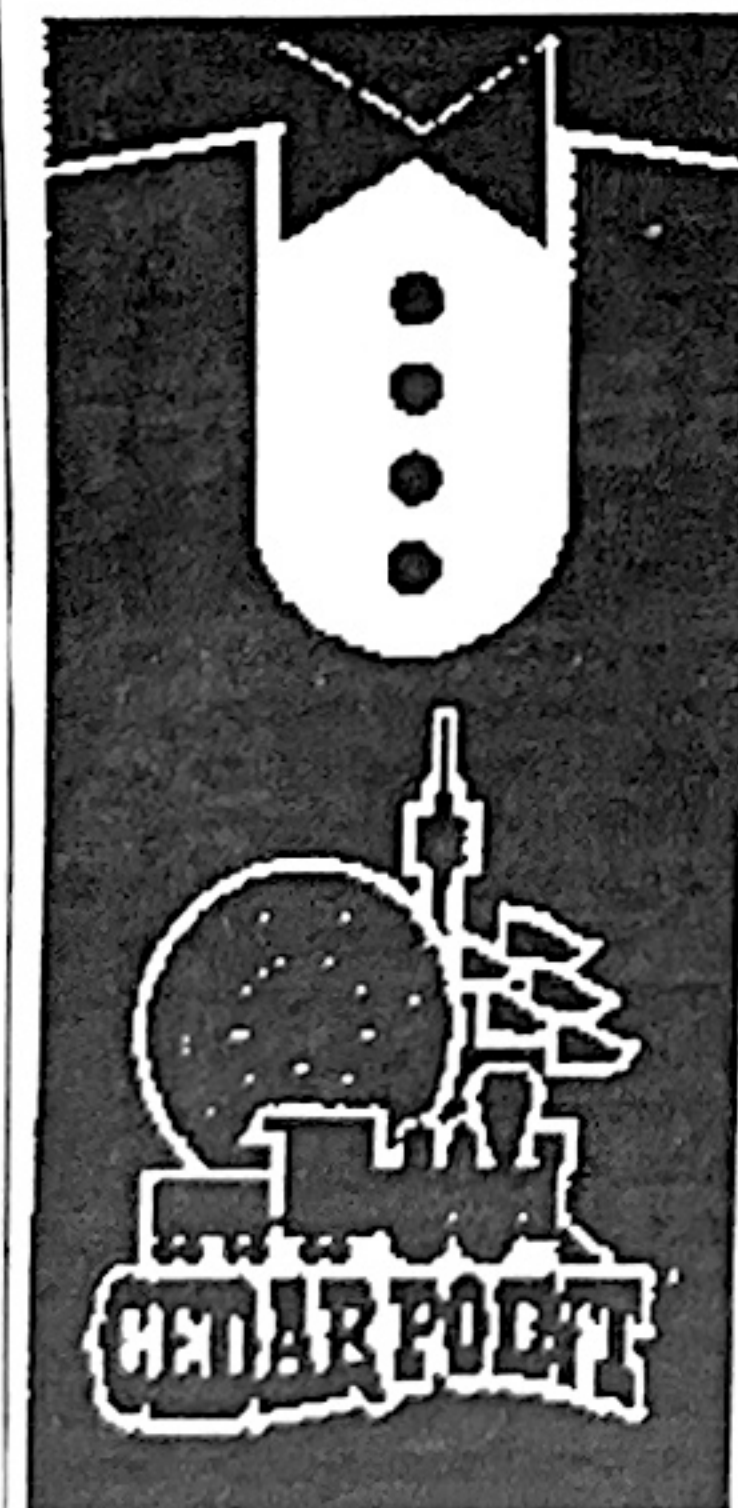
"Children's books have always dealt with morality and doing the right thing. But because, through the media, we're more aware of global events, children's books are dealing with national and global issues," Kaplan said.

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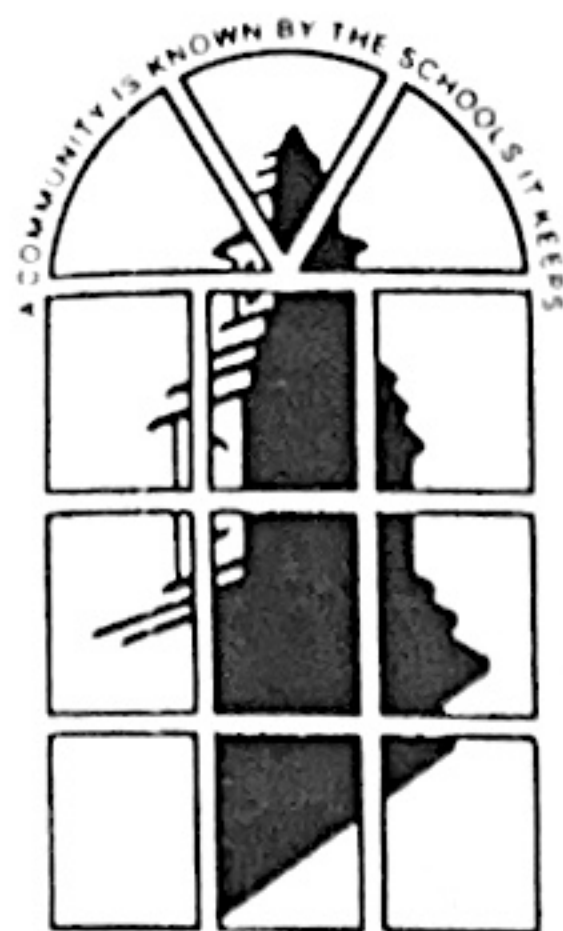
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SHAKER REMEMBERED

School bells still echo in minds of alumni, faculty

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN AND
SARAH STEWART

Staff Reporter and Feature Editor

Memories of middie blouses to tie dyed t-shirts reflect the historical spectrum of the Shaker Schools, as alumni and faculty recall their school years.

Frankie Polster, class of '58, said the girls' usual dress of the time was cashmere sweaters and skirts, while the boys wore button down shirts, penny loafers and argyle socks to match their shirt.

On the other hand, she remembers the "rackies," comparing them to the John Travolta type in "Grease."

"[The rackies] stole cars, but I didn't think they stole them to be stripped. It was for more of a joy ride."

Joseph Woodell, an industrial arts teacher at Woodbury from 1930-1969, remembers when boys and girls had separate homerooms and each homeroom had its own "mother" who planned homeroom parties and other functions.

Marie Boehringer, class of '31, said she remembers an outstanding English teacher,

Gale Wickwire. Boehringer said that Wickwire was responsible for inviting Langston Hughes to speak at the high school.

"He's weathered the years very well. That had a big impression on us," Boehringer said of Hughes visit.

While some alumni remember the academic influences of teachers, others recollect the social influences.



When social studies teacher Terry Pollack came to Shaker in 1961, girls' skirts had to reach the floor when they kneeled, and boys' hair had to be just below the ear."

"Who could forget when we petitioned Mr. Simpson, the principal, to fly the flag at half mast when Buddy Holly died in a plane crash. Mr. Simpson refused. Guess he didn't understand who Buddy Holly was," Wendy Van Baalen and Diane Siegel wrote in *Reflections*.

Adults may have viewed rock 'n roll as

a passing fad, but its evolution was part of a changing environment among students and teachers.

When social studies teacher Terry Pollack came to Shaker in 1961, girls' skirts had to reach the floor when they kneeled, and boys' hair had to be just below the ear.

These regulations gradually broke down in the late 60's, as the general society had a

movement stimulated student involvement in political issues.

"Students tended to be more radical in governmental issues as reflected around the country," Superintendent Mark Freeman said.

During these times "the war" was Vietnam, but in earlier years World War II headlines affected students.

According to Tom Bayless, class of '44, there was tremendous patriotism on the part of the schools.

Male students were eager to take advantage of their education, realizing once they turned 18 they could be drafted, Bayless said.

Robert Brown, class of '74, said he remembers a program in the high school called Flexible-American Studies, which included alternative English and History courses.

One course, taught by Pollack was a film making course in which the students set a film to music, Brown said.

"I got to college realizing that [Shaker] was an experience that a lot of people didn't have. We had fun learning," Brown said.

greater impact on the student body.

"Kids began to question the system and to challenge the beliefs of teachers and administrators. A lot of the freedoms that students have today are because of changes brought about during that time," Pollack said.

The Vietnam anti-war and civil rights

Shake down: the building of our schools

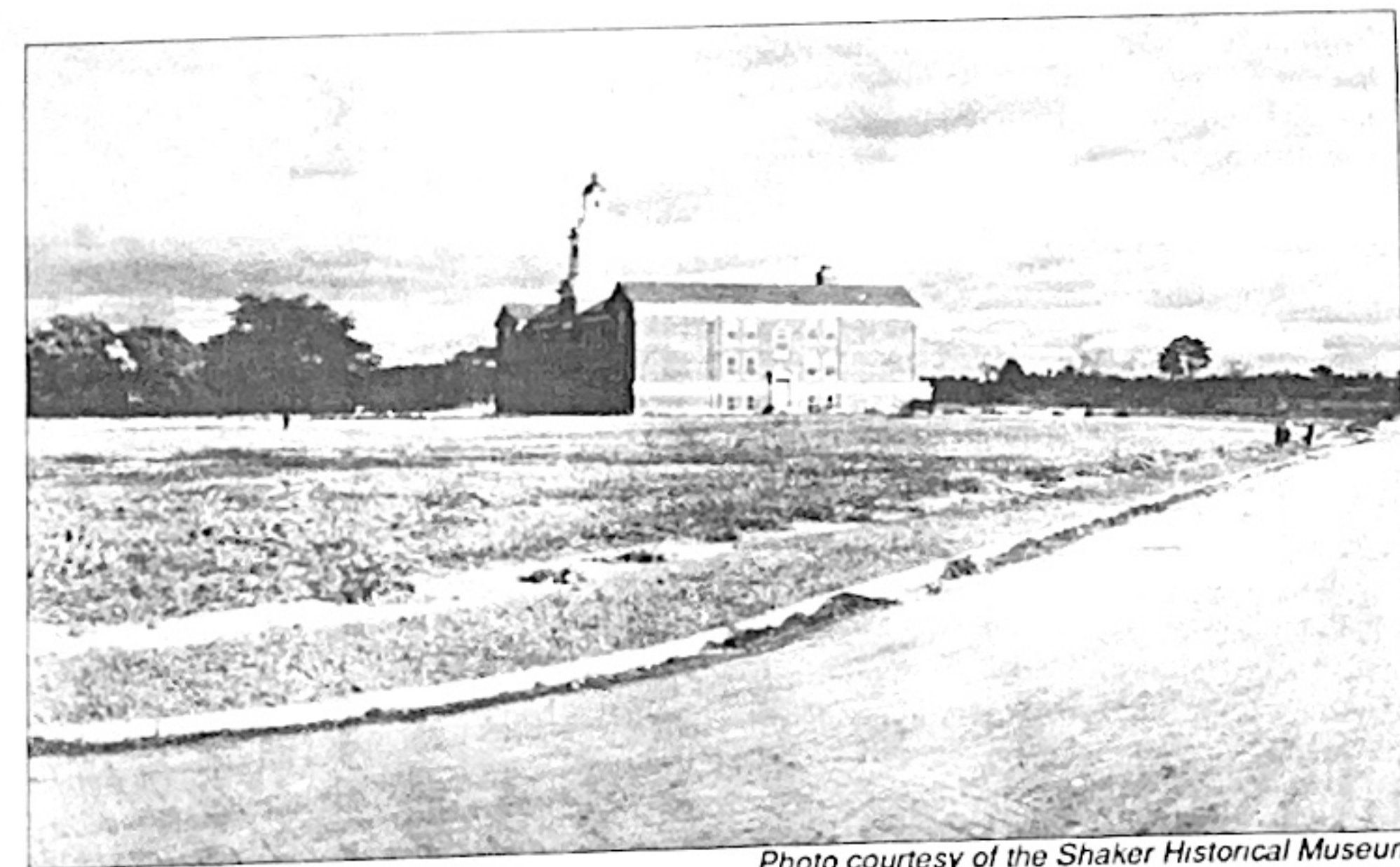


Photo courtesy of the Shaker Historical Museum

The above photo of Woodbury was taken in 1919, one year after its construction. The photo below shows the school as it stands today. Both pictures were taken near the corner of South Woodland and Woodbury Roads. When Woodbury opened in 1919, it housed grades 7-12 and is now occupied by grades 5 and 6.



Photo by Josh Harris

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN AND
SARAH STEWART

Staff Reporter and Feature Editor

School opened Sept. 9, 1912. The Van Swerigen real estate office housed the 26 pupils and four teachers. But the one room schoolhouse of yesterday is now seven buildings holding 4,846 students.

Boulevard school, which opened in 1914, was initially used for kindergarten-12 and graduated its first high school student, Beatrice Wall, in 1917.

Woodbury was opened in 1918.

"On a sunny, fall day in 1918, Shaker Heights residents, including about 50 junior and senior high school students, gathered around an unfinished building on South Woodland Road to witness the laying of the cornerstone of the new high school. One year later, the building was ready for the students. The capacity of the building was 450 children. It was expected to house the upper six grades permanently," Eli Voss wrote in her book *Reflections*, a history of Woodbury.

From 1920-1930, the population of Shaker grew from 1,616 to 17,892, therefore increasing by over 1,000%. This population boom led to the construction of seven new schools between 1923 and 1929.

Woodbury could no longer provide adequate space for the increasing number of junior and senior high school students. The senior high school was built in 1931 to alleviate the problem. Woodbury became solely a junior high school for grades 7-9, and Onaway, which had previously served kindergarten-8, became an elementary school.

A population increase as a result of the "baby boom" in the 50's led to the opening of Mercer Elementary School in 1951 and Byron Junior High School in 1957.

In the late 60's the need to accommodate a growing population was transformed into the need for desegregation in the schools.

"In 1968, the board of education charged the administration to make a proposal to end

racial segregation in the Shaker City Schools. During the next two years, many alternatives were considered," former Ludlow principal Norman Taylor wrote in a paper in 1975.

In 1970, *The Moreland Plan*, later named *The Shaker Schools Plan*, was devised to promote volunteer busing to end segregation.

"Under this plan, both black and white students would have the option to transfer between neighborhood schools to improve racial balance," according to *History of the Shaker Schools Plan* by Anne Adamson.

In 1977, *The Shaker Schools Plan* was expanded when a program for gifted and talented students throughout the district was implemented at Ludlow. This began the creation of magnet schools in the system.

In 1979, a pilot program in French language and culture was opened at Lomond. In 1981 three additional magnet programs were approved; Moreland concentrated on math and computers, a science program was implemented at Lomond and literary projects were added to the Ludlow program.

The integration problem was successfully solved with the most recent re-organization of the schools in 1985, Director of Staff Development Joe Szwaja said.

Woodbury Junior High School was closed in 1985, and Byron was changed to Shaker Middle School, holding grades 7-8. Grade 9 was moved to the senior high school.

The second step in the re-organization in 1987 was the closing of Sussex, Ludlow, Moreland and Malvern elementary schools. Woodbury was re-opened, serving grades 5 and 6.

At first many parents opposed the closing of the elementary schools.

"People believed that the kindergarten-6 neighborhood schools were the gut of the excellency of our schools," Szwaja said.

Although initial opposition to the closing of the schools was great, once enacted, the program was well received.

"Once the kids went in and the bell rang, they kids came home basically happy. There's no one who would want to go back to the kindergarten-6 program," Szwaja said.

Tennis team serves it up to States

BY MARK SMITH
Staff Reporter

This article was written as the tennis team prepared for States. The team lost this past weekend in the tournament.

Four members of the varsity tennis team are on their way to the state tournament in Columbus after succeeding against their competitors in sectionals and districts.

"We hope to bring the state title to Shaker Heights High School," said a confident senior Ben Stefanski.

Two doubles teams consisting of Stefanski and senior David Joseph along with senior Matt Pierce and junior Charles Ruffing will compete in the state tournament.

Senior Jason Kaufman, who was involved in the doubles tournament last year, qualified for the district tournament as a singles player. However, he did not make States.

If the players had won two games in their respective district matches, they automatically qualified for the state tournament.

"The doubles team of Joseph and Stefanski is the team most likely to win States," Slawson said.

He added that Joseph and Stefanski would also have the best chance to win States.

Ruffing, Pierce's doubles partner, agreed that Joseph and Stefanski are the better of the two doubles partners. He said that Joseph is an asset to his doubles team since he has had experience in tournament play. He also said that the Joseph and Stefanski duo have a good chance of bringing the state title to Shaker.

But the varsity team's success is unusual.

"Shaker has a history of having more success at the district tournament than any other school in Northeast Ohio," Slawson said.

He also said that the district is one-fourth of the state of

Ohio making the tennis team's success even more unwonted.

Ruffing predicted that he and Pierce will not go as far at States as their other teammates.

"We're just not too experienced at it," Ruffing said of tournament play.

"We're not looking to win," Pierce said.

Pierce also said of he and Ruffing, "We will have to play a high seed because of our showing at districts."

He mentioned that since this is his and Ruffing's first year in tournament play, his doubles team making it to states is simply a good opportunity.

But Stefanski was not about to dampen the spirits of his fellow tennis team members.

Speaking of the possible success of Pierce and Ruffing in States, Stefanski said,

"Their success is entirely up to them and their performance."

Reflecting on sectional play, one particular game stood out in the players' minds, the all-Shaker doubles game in the finals of sectional play.

Pierce said that Joseph and Stefanski clearly dominated the court against him and Ruffing.

That fact that an all-Shaker doubles game occurred did not seem to surprise the tennis team.

"It shows how much depth the team has," Pierce said of the unusual sectional game.

He also said that the game demonstrated how Shaker managed to dominate the sectional courts.

When asked about how well his doubles team expects to do in States, and the competition they have to look forward to, Stefanski agreed that every game up till now was competitive.

"Our goal is to win," Stefanski said. "It just gets harder from here."



WHAT A STROKE! While returning a volley, junior Chuck Ruffing prepares for his double team's state competition. Photo by Jason Hamilton

Cleveland can't wait much longer

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF
Sports Editor

When it comes to sports, Cleveland is a big-time loser. We cannot claim a major championship title after 1964, when the Browns won the NFL championship.

Now, we can only sit back and pray, hoping that luck will strike this city once again.

Let's examine this past year in Cleveland's professional sports.

The Browns. First, they give some guy named Raymond Clayborne millions of dollars to watch football from the bench. While you are at it, Art Modell, why don't you blow a few million and give to the PTL?

Second, Mr. Modell is beginning to bear resemblance to George Steinbrenner... changing coaches at every whim. That's a key to stability, isn't it?

Finally, is Bernie Kosar worth all those millions, too? He cannot run for more than five seconds without tripping, he hurts his elbow every time he falls (which is often) and he has this terrible habit of throwing the ball right to an opposing player during a close game. Where is Brian Sipe when you

need him?

The Browns should be a team of outstanding veterans to ensure us of a Super Bowl ring within the next two years.

Trade the whole offensive line for Joe Montana, exchange Kosar for punter Sean Landetta, acquire Lawrence Taylor and convince O.J. Simpson that he is still young.

Now, we're ready to beat Denver.

The Cavs. Wayne Embry should definitely give Hot Rod Williams a raise. After all, five million dollars a year is

SPORTS COLUMN

not enough for such talent and performance.

Where are our guards? Craig Ehlo is mediocre, Mark Price is injury-riddled and Darnell Valentine has never been around for more than six months.

In order to ever dream of winning a title, coach Lenny Wilkens must play Danny Ferry at least 30 minutes a game.

Secondly, Embry can trade Williams with about four million dollars to spare. With this money he can buy the contracts of Charles Barkley and Clyde Drexler.

Next, bring back Ron Harper. He is a miniature Michael Jordan and can do the job. Plus, all of his posters still hang in my room.

Now, we're ready to beat the Bulls in the first round.

The Crunch. After only two seasons, they are our best hope for a title. Though young and championship-minded, they might unfortunately be the resurrection of the Force.

In case you forgot, the Force lost two championship series to the San Diego Sockers. The Crunch has already lost one.

Though Cleveland indoor soccer teams seem to always lose the championship games, look for the Crunch to win it all in two years.

The Indians. Since the Miracle of '48 (our last World Series championship), it has been all downhill. The Tribe has definitely fallen and can't get up.

This year, however, is different. Filled with a plethora of young faces (Mark Lewis looks like he just graduated junior high), Hank Peters has finally done something right.

Such a young team has little chance for a title for at least five years. Beau Allred, Turner Ward and Lewis will still drop pop-ups, boot the grounders and overrun second base for a few more years.

Clevelanders can be placated, though, with a little staff rearrangement.

First, find a few clutch hitters to replace aging Brook Jacoby. Jacoby has done his job, but must now move on... to the retirement home. How about Tony Gwynn, Jack Clark or Kevin Mitchell?

Second, show Doug Jones the door. Once the most consistent stopper in baseball, Jonesy has now become the most needy patient of a physician's expertise. That crick in his neck has certainly worsened from watching all those balls whiz over his head.

He has blown at least five games for us this year, by giving up ninth inning doubles, triples and homers, including one grand slam to Wally Joyner.

So, send Jones to the National League where he can stymie players for a few years and then retire. In return, we get flame-thrower Rob Dibble (who turned down a National Hockey League contract), who will be Albert Belle's tag-team partner in the new World Baseball Wrestling Federation.

Also, bring back Steve Olin.

Though teams with so many superstars may be too ideal, we must influence Embry, Modell and the Jacobs brothers to create championship-potential teams. If this doesn't work, we have one option left.

Pack our bags.

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Seniors reminisce about high school sports

BY NANOR TABRIZI

Staff Reporter

Once again, it is the time of year for teams to say goodbye to their senior athletes.

Though senior athletes are leaving their years at Shaker behind, the skills, lessons and triumphs that they have gained will remain with them.

"The biggest lesson that I have learned as an athlete is that it takes a lot of hard work to achieve," senior tennis player Jason Kaufman said.

Balancing the time between sports and the rigorous academic year is hard for many.

"It takes a lot of hard work to be both an athlete and a student. Teachers often don't realize that you are dealing with a heavier work load during a season. You also have to

understand everything in class because you can't miss practice to go in after school for help," said senior Heather MacDonald, a field hockey and softball player.

soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams.

Another advantage of participating in sports is learning how to interact with others.

"I've learned how to work well with

tively," Woodring said.

Senior softball player Stacey Heiman said that some of the benefits may be credited to the coaching found at Shaker.

"In my junior and senior years, the coaches helped me a lot. They really made a difference by understanding some of the pressures that I was facing," Heiman said.

Seniors also say that the large variety of sports contributes a great deal to the sports program.

"There is a good variety of sports. The addition of sports like lacrosse shows that the system is open to new ideas," Wilkoff said.

Good athletic skills are not the only things that will leave with the seniors. They will also take with them many memories.

"My experiences in sports are part of me now. They helped me to become a more rounded person," said Wilkoff.



It takes a lot of hard work to be both an athlete and a student. Teachers often don't realize that you are dealing with a heavier work load during a season.

- Heather MacDonald

Though being active in sports proves to be difficult at times, seniors also reap many advantages.

"You make a lot of different friends from different grades and classes that you wouldn't normally have a chance to meet," said Jimmy Woodring, a member of the

others and how to depend on teammates," senior tennis player Cathy Wilkoff said.

According to Woodring, learning about discipline is an asset that helps him to manage his time well both on and off the field.

"Sports have made me more disciplined and better able to manage my time effec-

Girls track runs over competition

BY JEFF EPSTEIN

Staff Reporter

Coming off a very successful year, the girls track team will head into regional and state competition.

The team went 5-2 in Lake Erie League meets this year which placed them in third place in the league behind powerhouse Cleveland Heights, according to sophomore Joanna Garcia.

The team finished second in the Northcoast Invitational and the North Olmsted Relays, and last Saturday placed third at the Weingart Relays at Cleveland Heights.

"We should send most of the team through to regionals," Garcia said. "We should have some people get down to states as well."

Sophomore Bev Smith agrees.

"Almost the whole team will make it to regionals. We should have at least two people at states."

Garcia participates in the high jump, 300 hurdles, 4x400 meters, and the shuttle hurdles, while Smith competes in the high jump, long jump, 100 hurdles, and shuttle hurdles.

The shuttle hurdles team including Smith, Garcia, Stephanie Brown, and Ayesha Bell set a new school record at the Weingart Relays of 1:09.5, breaking the old record of 1:12.

Due to the relatively small team size of



FLYING BY. Sophomores Careese Robinson, Bev Smith and senior Stephanie Brown turn the bend during practice, in hopes of a strong performance at regional competition.

Photo by Josh Harris

around 20 girls, everybody competes in at least one event at most larger meets. In larger non-league meets, the Raiders compete against seven to 25 other teams.

"We're usually winning the meets at the end of the field events," Smith said. "We have good running and outstanding field events."

Garcia has high hopes for the state tournament.

"I think I'll definitely get down to states.

It's going to be real tough, but I think I'll do well," Garcia said.

Smith feels that the team will be good next year as well.

"We'll be at least as good next year. The team has a lot of sophomores, and the eighth grade team is very good this year."

Smith also praised head coach Henry Woodard.

"Mr. Woodard's good if you listen to him," she said.



Shakerite artwork by Jeff Michel

Top 10 reasons to attend Raiders' matches:

10. To taunt the opposition
9. You were a former member of the opposing team
8. Our teams are good
7. To make them feel wanted
6. To make yourself feel needed
5. Previous fan support was lousy
4. You missed your ride home
3. You really don't want to go home
2. To put off your homework, again
1. You are on the team

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